VENKATRAMAN): (a) The new policy lays stress on the four-laning of the existing National Highway corridors linking Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai as well as the linkages to the major ports.

(b) and (d) The Government has not offered any project on BOLT basis. However 4 projects under BOT basis have already been awarded with an estimated cost of Rs. 101 crores and about 17 projects are under offer to private sector. The details of already awarded projects is as under:—

S. No.	Project	Length/ No.	Present status (Physical Progress)
1.	Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass in Maharashtra.	24 Km	70%
2.	Udaipur Bypass in Rajasthan	11km	25%
3.	Chaltan Road Over Bridge in Gujarat	1	10%
4.	Bridges on N.H.5 in Andhra Pradesh	6	Agreement signed on 9.4.97 and the work is likely to be completed by the year 2002.

Loans and advances from world bank and Asian development bank for national highway projects

4227. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans and advances taken from the World Bank Asian Development Bank and other International Financial Institutions during the last three years for construction and improvement/repair of new National Highways/bridges;

(b) whether the total loan amount was spent on the related Projects; and

(c) if not, the details of the diversion of such loans and advances alongwith reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Details of loans and advances taken from international financial institutions, for the construction and improvement/repairs of National Highways, during the last three years from 1994-95 to 1996-97 are as under:

S. No.	Name of International insfitution	Amount of loan/advances taken
1.	World Bank	US $73.433 million
2.	Asian Development Bank	US $224.695 million (inclusive of State Road Projects).
3.	Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF).	Yen 834.904 million

In addition to above, Grant-in-aid amounting to YEN 1119 million was received from Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), during this period.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Four laning of national highways passing through Maharashtra

4228. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken feasibility studies for converting various National Highways passing through Maharashtra into four-lane National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the National Highways selected for the purpose; and

(c) by when four-laning of these National Highways in the State is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Feasibility studies for certain sections of National Highways in Maharashtra such as Nashik—lgatpuri (NH-3), Mumbai-Pune and Pune-Bangalore (NH-4) have been undertaken. It is too early to indicate the likely dates of completion of four-laning.

मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के विकास का प्रस्ताव

4229. श्री अजीत जोगी: क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को मध्य प्रदेश में राजमार्गों के विकास के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस प्रयोजन के लिए स्वीकृत राशि सहित स्वीकृत प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या कुछ स्वीकृत परियोजनाओं के कार्य में देरी हो रही है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री (श्री टी०जी० वेंकटरामन): (क) से (ग) जी हां। मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के विकास के लिए सड़कों और पुलों के लिए 21.67 करोड़ रु. लागत के 6 प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए है। इनमें से 5.65 करोड़ रु. लागत से 3 सड़क कार्यों को संस्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है।

(घ) और (ङ) भूमि अधिग्रहण के मामले में बाधाओं, उपयोगी सुविधाओं को हटाने, एजेंसियों द्वारा कार्य बन्द कर दिए जाने, पुनः एजेंसियों नियत करने में अतिरिक्त समय लगने और निधियों के अभाव इत्यादि के कारण कुछ परियोजनाओं के मामले में विलम्ब हुआ है।

GEO-Synthetics Material for Construction of Road

4230. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minsiter of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-day Indo-US Workshop on "ground improvement using goo-synthetics" was held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions made by the exports;

(d) whether Government propose to use goo-synthetics materials for construction of roads in natural disaster prone and hill areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A three days' Indo-U.S. Workshop was held from 26th to 28th March, 1997. This was organised by the Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi in collaboration with the University of New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A. and funded by the National Science Foundation, U.S.A., Department of Science and Technology, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India. Prominent national and international companies from India, U.S.A. and Italy sponsored/ cosponsored the Workshop to discuss the use of geo-synthetics in its various applications.